

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**PROCLAMATION**

EO 00-10

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER RELATING TO THE GOVERNORS' COUNCIL FOR INTERSTATE COMPACTS.

WHEREAS, the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact ("the Compact") has proven its effectiveness and benefit to the public interest of the six states in New England; and

WHEREAS, the Compact has been a model of success, demonstrating that states can work cooperatively on behalf of farmers and consumers to bring common sense and fairness to the dairy industry, yet the consent of the U.S. Congress to the Compact is set to expire on September 30, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Compact has paid over \$120 million to dairy farmers in Compact states since August 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Compact helps provide economic stability to local, rural communities by also benefiting feed stores, farm equipment suppliers and maintenance workers, farm supply stores, local banks, tourism, and the construction trades; and

WHEREAS, the compact has helped local dairy farmers stay in the business of farming and helps preserve the open working landscapes of America and vibrant downtowns; and

WHEREAS, local dairy farms are important to maintaining the continuous supply of fresh milk to neighboring communities and cities; and

WHEREAS, states have the right under the Constitution to form compacts when it is in the best interest of their citizens to do so; and

WHEREAS, in large part based on the demonstrated benefit of the Compact, the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania have adopted legislation authorizing their participation in the Compact; and

WHEREAS, the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia have adopted legislation to establish as Southern Interstate Dairy Compact for their states; and

WHEREAS, the states, through their elected officials must promote the benefits of compact legislation that they have passed and enacted; and

WHEREAS, these twenty-five states that have passed compact legislation are now formally presenting to Congress the re-approval and expansion of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact and the authorization of the Southern Interstate Dairy Compact; and

WHEREAS, the several states will benefit from a unified and effective advocacy of each state's right to promote policies beneficial both to their own citizens, and to the citizens of neighboring states, regarding the use of compacts to further the sustainability of rural economies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Huckabee, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby create the Governor's Council for Compacts ("the Council"). The Council shall:

1. Help to document and promote the value and compelling public interest served through interstate dairy compacts;
2. Advocate and promote the support of compacts to Congress on behalf of compact states;
3. Promote regional compacts for the betterment of rural economies and communities;
4. Regularly report to the governors of compact states on the work of the Council;
5. Coordinate with farmers, state agricultural commissioners and citizens of rural states on the advocacy of compacts.

The Council shall consist of the Secretary of Administration of the State Of Arkansas and her designee who shall work on behalf of the states participating in, or anticipating participation in, the Southern Interstate Dairy Compact. The Council shall invite direct participation by other governors or their designees who have made contributions on behalf of their states to the Council as well as inviting participation by the congressional delegations from participatory states. This Executive Order may be amended from time to time to add members of the Council.

The Council shall meet periodically to develop and supervise a work plan to execute the mandate of this Order. At any time the Council may go into executive session to discuss matters covered by

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this     day of October in the year of our Lord, two thousand.



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GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

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SECRETARY OF STATE SHARON PRIEST